



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS  
2000 NAVY PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON, DC 20350-2000

IN REPLY REFER TO

OPNAVINST 4730.5M  
N09P  
4 Jan 2001

OPNAV INSTRUCTION 4730.5M

From: Chief of Naval Operations

Subj: TRIALS AND MATERIAL INSPECTIONS (MI) OF SHIPS CONDUCTED BY  
THE BOARD OF INSPECTION AND SURVEY

Ref: (a) U.S. Code, Title 10, § 7304  
(b) CNO WASHINGTON DC 252203Z SEP 98 (NAVOP 009/98)  
(c) OPNAVINST 4770.5F  
(d) OPNAVINST 4700.8H  
(e) OPNAVINST 4730.7D  
(f) OPNAVINST 4780.6C

1. Purpose. To set policy for Material Inspections (MI) of naval vessels conducted by the Board of Inspection and Survey (INSURV) and to assign accountability for corrective and follow-up action to correct repair and alteration deficiencies. This instruction has been substantially revised and should be reviewed in its entirety.

2. Cancellation. OPNAV Instructions 4730.5L.

3. Background. Reference (a), as modified by reference (b), prescribes that the Secretary of the Navy shall designate boards of naval officers to examine naval vessels and to make recommendations to the Secretary of the Navy as to which vessels, if any, should be stricken from the Naval Vessel Register. Reference (c) provides policy for material inspections of ships and service craft scheduled for inactivation and disposal. Reference (d) provides policy for conducting trials and inspections associated with construction and conversion of U.S. Naval ships. This instruction is augmented by references (e) and (f), which provide policy and responsibilities for material inspections of submarines and service craft, respectively.

4. Discussion. The Board of Inspection and Survey will conduct trials and/or material inspections (MIs) of naval ships at a time and place mutually satisfactory to the Board and the command presenting the ship for inspection. Trials are performed for the purpose of

4 Jan 2001

determining the quality of construction, compliance with specifications and Navy requirements, and to make recommendations on ship acceptance by the Navy. Material Inspections (MI's) are performed for the purpose of determining and reporting a ship's fitness for further service and material conditions which limit her capability to carry out assigned missions.

5. Trial and Inspection Precepts and Procedures. The Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) will not issue procedural directives (precepts) for the conduct of individual trials and material inspections except where special considerations are indicated. Procedures for conducting routine trials and material inspections shall be specified by the President, Board of Inspection and Survey. Normally, trials and material inspections will contain an underway period. A material inspection consists of a physical examination of the ship, its spaces, and installed equipment. It includes witnessing demonstrations of operating equipment and systems, and the examination of appropriate records.

6. Policy. Surface ship material inspection intervals and "overdue" determination will be based on the following:

a. Active Ships

(1) Normally a ship's INSURV Material Inspection (MI) will be scheduled three years from the previous inspection. If the ship is not inspected by that date, it will be considered overdue. (Note: inspection intervals are based simply on calendar months since the last inspection. Time spent in depot level maintenance is included in this interval). At no time will the interval between INSURV inspections exceed 60 months, reference (b).

(2) INSURV inspections will not normally be conducted during a ship's deployment. If the INSURV inspection due date occurs during deployment, the ship will be considered overdue and an INSURV inspection will be conducted as soon as practicable. If the 60 month maximum limit would occur during deployment, the inspection due date will be adjusted to occur during the 4 months prior to deployment. The best possible time to conduct an INSURV MI is directly after Final Evaluation Period (FEP) during the Inter-deployment Training Cycle (IDTC).

(3) If a ship's INSURV inspection due date falls within a CNO-scheduled maintenance availability, the ship will be considered overdue and an INSURV inspection will be conducted as soon as practicable. If the 60 month maximum limit would occur during the depot level maintenance period, the inspection due date will be

adjusted to occur at least 4 months prior to the maintenance period, preferably immediately after FEP during the IDTC.

(4) Whenever practicable, inspections will be held sufficiently in advance of a maintenance availability to permit incorporation of appropriate INSURV repair and alteration recommendations in the authorized work package.

b. Inactive Ships and Service Creft. Material inspections of inactive ships in Navy custody and ships or service craft scheduled for inactivation will be conducted in accordance with reference (c).

c. Military Sealift Command (MSC) Ships. Applicable MSC ships will be inspected in accordance with the current Memorandum of Understanding between President, Board of Inspection and Survey (PRESINSURV) and Commander, Military Sealift Command (COMSC). MSC ships will be inspected once each American Bureau of Shipping survey cycle. This will result in one inspection each maintenance cycle as prescribed by part 46 Code of Federal Regulations.

## 7. Nominations for Inspections.

### a. Active Ships

(1) Cognizant commanders will propose inspection schedules for their ships to PRESINSURV. Ship inspections will be scheduled in an efficient and timely manner.

(2) A proposed disposition matrix of all naval vessels will be submitted by CNO (N43) to PRESINSURV. All MOB B assets and vessels designated for Foreign Military Sales (FMS) will be reviewed by PRESINSURV for MI/Survey requirements.

b. Inactive Ships. Proposals for inspections of inactive ships will be submitted by Commander, Naval Sea Systems Command (COMNAVSEASYS COM) to PRESINSURV. Inactive ships will be nominated to INSURV for "open and inspect" type of inspection only when material conditions are not clearly know or whenever it appears warranted, as described in reference (c).

c. MSC Ships. The current Memorandum of Understanding between PRESINSURV and COMSC will be used to schedule MSC ships. Copies of the inspection schedules will be forwarded to PRESINSURV.

## 8. Correction of Material Discrepancies.

4 Jan 2001

a. PRESINSURV will ensure that reports of material inspections categorize discrepancies as those requiring repairs and those requiring alterations. Alteration discrepancies will be reviewed, by PRESINSURV, for essentiality prior to inclusion in reports. In the case of repairs, those items that are indicative of significant reliability and/or maintainability problems will be specifically identified in the report.

b. Fleet Commanders in Chief (Fleet CINCs) and COMSC will establish INSURV discrepancy correction and follow-up procedures to ensure that repair discrepancies are corrected in a timely manner.

c. The resolution of technical issues identified by PRESINSURV will be in accordance with the current Memorandum of Understanding between PRESINSURV and COMNAVSEASYSKOM.

9. Reclassification of Deficiencies. The authority to cancel or reclassify deficiencies documented in the report of a material inspection rests solely with PRESINSURV. Once a deficiency has been reported, it remains valid until resolved or superseded by the next material inspection of that ship. PRESINSURV will neither maintain a record of the status of all deficiencies nor cancel or downgrade documented deficiencies. Deficiencies identified and documented by PRESINSURV constitute a valid assessment of the material condition of that ship.

10. Waivers. Requests for deviation from this instruction should be kept to a minimum. In those circumstances where it has been determined that it is not practicable to adhere to material inspection intervals in this instruction, waiver requests will be considered by CNO (N09P). Waiver requests should be submitted by message as follows:

a. From Immediate Superior in Command (ISIC)  
Action to CNO 09P NORFOLK VA//00//  
PRESINSURV NORFOLK VA//00/01//

b. Waiver requests shall include Immediate Superior in Command (ISIC) and Type Commander (TYCOM) assessments of the platform's maintenance records and current material condition. An alternate date or window for the inspection will be included.

c. Endorsement/comments from other cognizant authorities (e.g., Squadron and Battle Group Commanders) should be submitted as required by Fleet CINCs and TYCOMs.

d. Fleet CINC endorsements are required on all INSURV

inspection waiver requests and should discuss those compelling requirements that make it impractical to adhere to the INSURV material inspection interval in this instruction.

11. Forward Deployed Naval Forces (FDNF). FDNF will have an INSURV MI within 4 months of their movement overseas, mid FDNF cycle (60-month interval), and upon return CONUS following deployment. For ships that reach a 60-month interval before mid FDNF cycle, a temporary INSURV board will make an assessment of material condition. A deferral of one year may be made based on results of the temporary board assessment. Subsequent assessments will be made annually to support continued deferral to, but not past, the FDNF cycle midpoint. If deferral is not granted at any point, the ship will receive a full MI and the 60-month interval clock will start over. All FDNF ships will have a MI at mid FDNF cycle (notional 10 year FDNF rotation). For those FDNF ships with no scheduled return date, 60-month interval applies, see para 6a above.

12. Action

a. Reports will be made by the Inspecting Board to PRESINSURV. PRESINSURV will review these reports and submit them to CNO with copies to appropriate commands.

b. Each deficiency noted in the report of a material inspection that significantly degrades the ability of a ship to carry out her assigned general mission and primary mission areas shall be reflected in an appropriate casualty report (CASREP) under the provisions of NWP 10-1-10. Correction of those deficiencies that significantly degrade the ship's mission capabilities and readiness will be given the highest priority.

c. On a semiannual basis, PRESINSURV will apprise the CNO and cognizant commanders by message of active ships that are overdue for inspection.

13. Reports. The reports contained in this directive are exempt from reports control by SECNAVINST 5214.2B.

/s/  
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Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy  
Special Assistant for  
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4 Jan 2001

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